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Attorney Docket No.: 10281.400-US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Eric Thwaites

Confirmation No: 3883

Serial No.: 10/734,432

Group Art Unit: 1655

Filed: December 12, 2003

Examiner: Srivastava, K.C.

For: Flocculation With Divalent Salt

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

**Mail Stop: Restriction Req.
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

1. Response to Restriction Requirement

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the address indicated above on July 20, 2006.

Seleste A. Buriani
(name of person mailing paper)

Seleste A. Buriani
(signature of person mailing paper)



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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed July 3, 2006, that made restriction requirements. Applicants were requested to elect one of three designated groups under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I: Claims 1-8 and 12-15 are drawn to a method to flocculate a microorganism or remove a high molecular weight contaminant from a fermentation broth, classified under Class 423, Subclass 101 for example.

Group II: Claims 9-11 are drawn to a method to flocculate a microorganism from a fermentation broth, classified under Class 435, Subclass 261 for example.

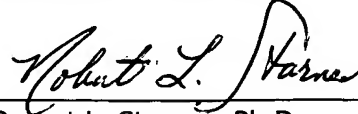
Group III: Claims 1 and 12-14 are drawn to a method to flocculate a microorganism from a fermentation broth producing a product, said method incorporating a step to adjust the pH of the fermentation broth prior to flocculating the microorganism, classified under Class 435, Subclass 72 for example.

In response to these requirements, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I. Claims 1-8 and 12-15 read on the elected subject matter.

The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this response or application.

Date: July 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert L. Starnes", written over a horizontal line.

Robert L. Starnes, Ph.D.
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